METHAMPHETAMINE

METHAMPHETAMINE CONTENT

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WHAT IS METHAMPHETAMINE?

- ***Methamphetamine is a powerful, synthetic Central Nervous System (CNS) Stimulant.***
- ***Methamphetamine is legally prescribed as a treatment for Attention Deficit Disorder (ADD) under the brand name Desoxyn.***
- ***The majority of methamphetamine being consumed illegally is manufactured in clandestine laboratories around the United States.***

HISTORY of METHAMPHETAMINE

1919 Methamphetamine is first synthesized in Japan by A. Ogata.

1940s Japan becomes the first country to suffer a methamphetamine epidemic with methamphetamine being used by factory workers to increase output.

WWII Methamphetamine was used by Japanese, German, British, and American soldiers to help keep them awake during battles and bombing runs.

HISTORY of METHAMPHETAMINE

1959 The FDA bans the use of most amphetamines, from use in inhalers because of the addictive properties but allows methamphetamine to be used.

1960s Methamphetamine use begins to rise in the United States.

1970 Methamphetamine use is at an alarming rate in California. The motorcycle gang "Hell's Angels" is responsible for the distribution and production of most of the methamphetamine being consumed.

HISTORY of METHAMPHETAMINE

Methamphetamine Clandestine Laboratory

1970 Amphetamines become illegal after the passage of "United States Drug Abuse Regulation and Control Act of 1970"

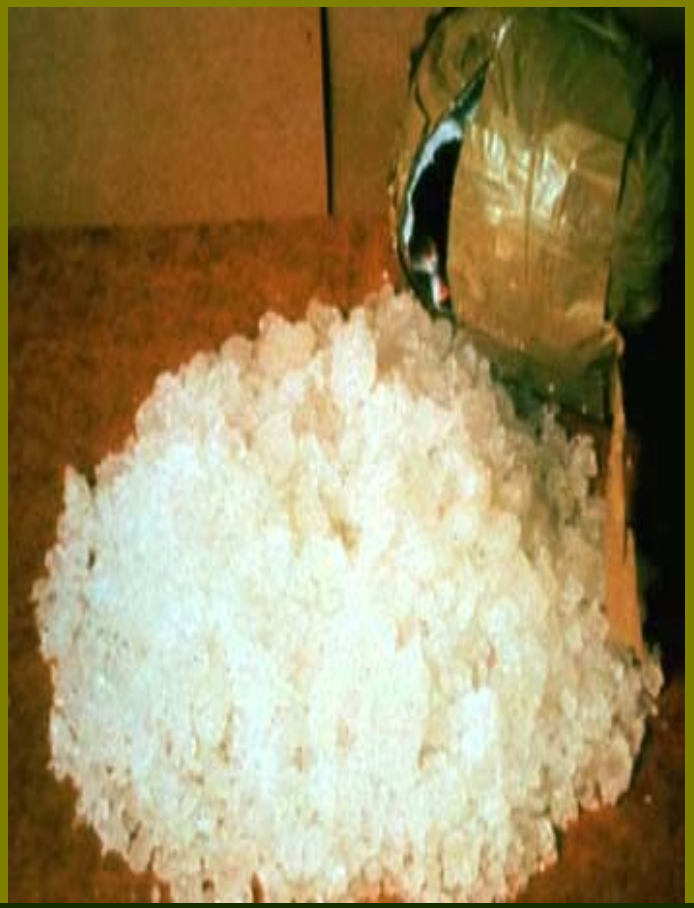
1996 The "Comprehensive Methamphetamine Control Act" is passed, establishing new reporting requirements for those companies selling methamphetamine supplies by mail.

2000 Senior officials in the Clinton Administration declare Methamphetamine "the worst drug ever to hit America".

Present Methamphetamine has been associated with "Raves", and belongs to the "Club Drugs" family.

STREET NAMES

- Crank
- Meth
- Speed
- Booger
- Crypto
- Crystal
- Ups



- Glass
- Chalk
- Whacked
- Caca
- Crystal Meth
- Tubby Toast

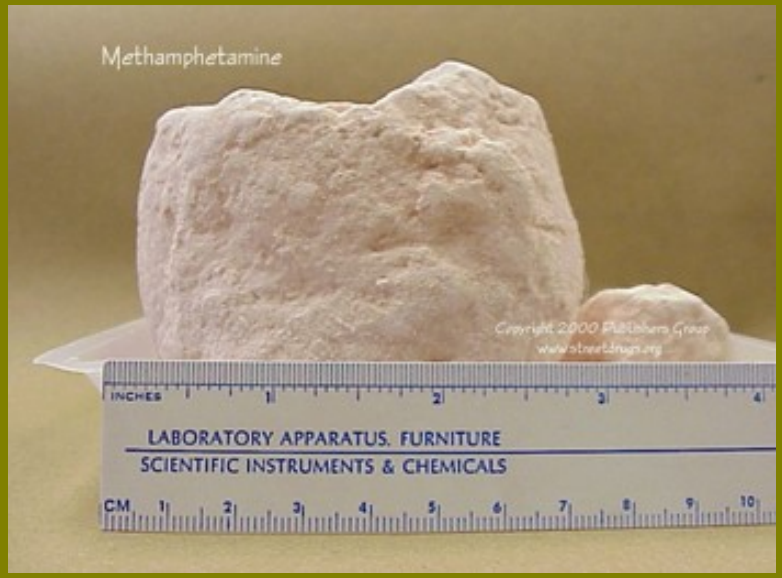
HOW IS METHAMPHETAMINE CONSUMED?

Methamphetamine is generally a white or off-white powder that can be ingested several different ways:

- ***Orally – In a pill form***
- ***Snorted – This can cause severe damage to the interior and exterior of the nose.***
- ***Intravenously - The methamphetamine can be injected into either the blood stream or the muscle tissue***
- ***Smoked – Methamphetamine is sometimes smoked by itself or on top of marijuana.***

SHORT TERM SIDE EFFECTS

- Chronic Depression
- Anxiety/Panic Attacks
- Violent/Suicidal Behavior



LONG TERM SIDE EFFECTS

Methamphetamine use can cause serious long term side effects that can affect the user for the rest of their life:

- **Fatal Kidney Disorders**
- **Fatal Lung Disorders**
- **Severe Brain Damage**
- **Immune System Damage**
- **Severe Psychological Problems**
- **Birth Defects**
- **Stroke**
- **Death**

ADDICTION

Physical Dependence *- When the users body cannot function properly without ingestion of the drug.*

Psychological Dependence *- When the consumption of the drug takes priority over other activities within the users daily life.*

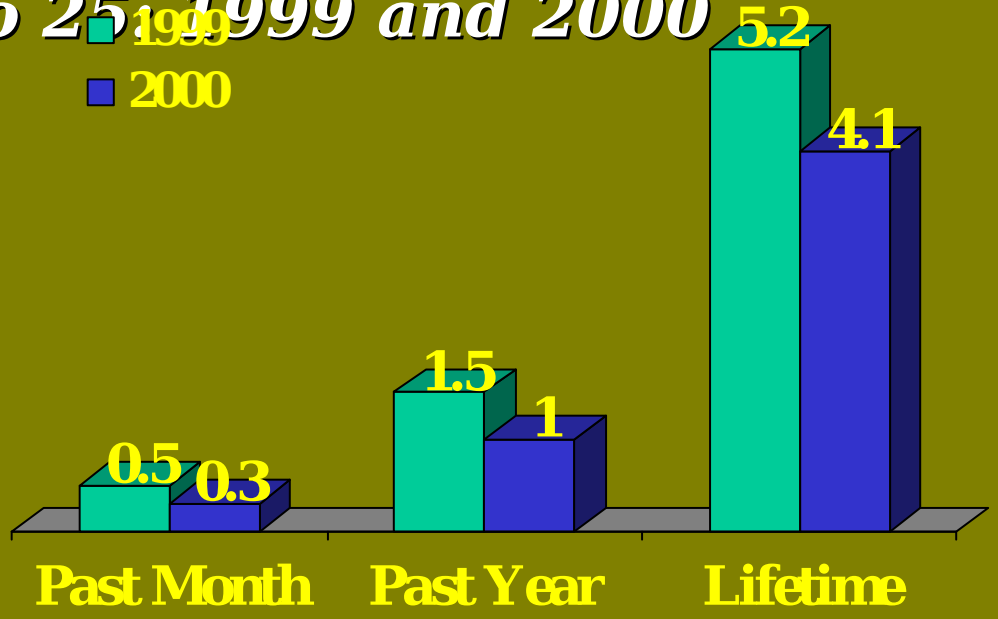
WITHDRAWAL

When a dependent person stops ingesting methamphetamines their body must readjust to functioning with the drug. Symptoms of withdrawal can include:

- **Hunger**
- **Extreme Fatigue**
- **Anxiety/Irritability**
- **Chronic Depression**
- **Restless Sleep**
- **Severe Nightmares**
- **Severe Distress**
- **Panic Attacks**

METHAMPHETAMINE USE IN THE UNITED STATES

Percentages Reporting Lifetime, Past Year, and Past Month Use of Methamphetamine Among Persons Aged 18 to 25, 1999 and 2000



2000 National Household Survey On Drug Abuse

AMPHETAMINE TESTING IN THE ARMY

- *Methamphetamines, along with Amphetamines, are tested for in every specimen that is collected throughout the Army.*
- *All specimen that test positive for Amphetamines are tested for MDMA, MDEA, and MDA.*
- *Methamphetamine is detectable in urine for 2-4 days after ingestion.*

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

- http://www.amphetamines.com
- http://www.erowid.org/chemicals/meth/meth.shtml
- http://www.nida.nih.gov/Infofax/methamphetamine.html
- http://www.health.org
- http://www.valleymeth.com/
- http://www.drugs.indiana.edu/publications/iprc/factline/ampet.html

UNITED STATES ARMY CENTER FOR SUBSTANCE ABUSE PROGRAMS

For more Information Contact:
ACSAP
E-mail: upl.acsap@usadaoa-emh1.army.mil